

Information for 2023 Saints Classic

Judge Requirements

- In debate, one judge covers two entries. Judges may cover entries in multiple debate events (e.g. a school with one entry in Lincoln-Douglas and one entry in Public Forum may be covered by a single person), but should be prepared to judge either debate event if they do so. While we will attempt to honor requests for less-experienced judges to be assigned to one event, we make no guarantees in that regard.
- In speech, one judge covers ten entries and should be prepared to judge any of the speech events that we offer. For purposes of assessing judge quotas, Congress entries are treated as speech entries.
- **New for 2023** -- For the first time in a decade, we are increasing our judge fees. While we'd prefer not to have had to do this, we do need to be hiring judges at closer to a break-even point, which we haven't been doing for several years now: For debate, it will cost \$50 to hire a judge, while speech judges will be available at \$30 each. For schools getting hit with a judge hire fee to cover one or two slots, we will adjust fees.

Entry Limits

- A student may enter up to four events, but no more than two in a single flight. Debate and Student Congress are treated as Flight A events for this purpose.
- A school may enter up to six (6) students/teams in any debate event and up to ten (10) students/teams in any speech event. Additional entries will be waitlisted and will be cleared after the close of registration as space and expected judging allows. Each event will also begin with an initial cap of 48 entries, though those numbers will be adjusted as entries come in (e.g. no tournament in Mississippi this year has had more than 19 entries in Informative, so we can reallocate those rooms if that number remains consistent).
- MHSAA rules govern all events, including time limits/grace period, allowable material use (mainly, don't use the same piece for multiple events), decency clauses, and sweepstakes. Where MHSAA rules do not speak to a circumstance, the tournament director and MHSAA liaison will use NSDA rules in all events save Declamation and Duet Acting (using NCFL and NIETOC rule there respectively) as a basis for dealing with any issues that should arise.

Novice Events and Prizes

New for 2023 – This year we are offering novice divisions in the following events: Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Poetry Interpretation, Prose Interpretation. Those events will run as split divisions as long as there are at least twelve entries in each division of the event. If entry numbers come in below those levels, we reserve the right to collapse divisions and we will let coaches know at the earliest opportunity should that occur.

While we will only offer open divisions in Public Forum Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking, we will present awards to the top novice competitors and squads in those events.

Time Limits and Topics

- **Policy Debate** – The time format of 8-3-5 will be used, with 8 minutes prep time allowed per team. The resolution is the NFHS National Debate Topic *“Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its security cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in one or more of the following areas: artificial intelligence, biotechnology, cybersecurity.”*
- **Lincoln-Douglas Debate** – The time format of 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 will be used, with 4 minutes prep time allowed per debater. The NSDA January/February resolution, to be announced on December 1, will be used.
- **Public Forum Debate** – The time format of 4-4-3-4-4-3-3-3-2-2 will be used, with 3 minutes prep time allowed per team. ***Unlike other Mississippi tournaments, Pro will always speak first and the computer will determine sides except in elimination rounds where teams have not previously debated, then the coin flip will determine sides only.*** The NSDA January resolution will be used, to be announced on December 1.
- **Student Congress** will use the legislation assigned to the tournament in the MHSAA Bill Book, along with bills that out of state schools submit by **Friday, December 16**. The second preliminary session of Student Congress will involve a scenario announced at the end of Session One and Finals will involve a general topic area to be discussed with proposals articulated similarly to World Schools Debate Motions.
- Extemporaneous Speaking topic areas to be announced closer to the tournament date.
- All speech events will have a 10-minute maximum time limit, save Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu Speaking (7 minutes), and there is no tournament imposed minimum length for speeches and performances. The 30-second grace period is also in effect, along with the rule that a speaker going over the grace period **may not** be ranked first unless all speakers go over the grace period.

Fee Summary

- \$25 per school entry fee (this covers the free dinner provided for students on Friday night)
- Single-person events: \$13 per entry.
- Two-person events: \$20 per entry.
- Hired Debate Judging: \$50 per judge needed (1 judge covers 2 entries)
- Hired Speech Judging: \$30 per judge needed (1 judge covers 6 entries)
- MHSAA rates will be honored for member schools – those invoices will be adjusted after entries close.

2023 Saints Classic Planned Schedule

We will accelerate when possible and delay only when unavoidable.

Friday, January 6

1:00-3:00 PM	Registration, CPA Gallery
3:45 PM	Judge Assembly – Walker Resource Center Student Assembly – Commons
4:00 PM	Round I – All debate Congress Session I
5:00 PM	Round II – Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum
5:30 PM	Round II – Policy Debate Coaches Dinner Begins around this time – specifics to come at registration
6:00 PM	Public Forum Round III Lincoln-Douglas Dinner Break
6:30 PM	Congress Dinner Break
6:45 PM	Round III – Lincoln-Douglas Public Forum Dinner Break
7:00 PM	Policy Debate Dinner Break
7:30 PM	Round III – Policy Debate Round IV – Public Forum Debate Congress Session II Begins
7:45 PM	Round IV – Lincoln-Douglas Debate
9:00 PM	Round IV – Policy Debate
9:15 PM	Round V – Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum
10:00 PM	Congress Adjourns

Debate breaks will be posted through Tabroom along with the Magnolia Speech account on Twitter. We also intend to post any known close-outs so coaches have the maximum time possible to contemplate resolving such rounds.

Saturday, January 7

7:30-8:00 AM	Registration for Schools Competing in I.E.s only, Walker Resource Ctr.
8:00 AM	Congress Supersession Begins
8:15 AM	Policy Debate Semifinals
8:30 AM	Speech Judge Meeting – Walker Resource Center Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Quarterfinals
9:00 AM	Round I of Flight A Events (IMP, VPR, NPR, DUET, OO, DI, POI)
10:00 AM	Round I Extemp Draw Begins
10:30 AM	Round I of Flight B Events (VX, NX, VPO, NPO, HI, DUO, DEC, INF)
12:00 Noon	Policy Debate Finals (we'll push to make this as close to 11:30 as possible) Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Semifinals Round II of Flight A Events
1:00 PM	Round II Extemp Draw Begins
1:30 PM	Round II of Flight B Events
3:00 PM	Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Finals

	Semifinals of Flight A Events
3:30 PM	Semifinal Extemp Draw
4:00 PM	Semifinals of Flight B Events
5:00 PM	Finals of Flight A Events
5:30 PM	Final Extemp Draw
6:00 PM	Finals of Flight B Events
7:30 PM	Awards Ceremony, CPA